THE HINDOO PATRIOT

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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 30TH JANUARY.

INFORMATION has been received through the Commissioner of Peshawur of a raid having been committed on the night of the 9th instant by the followers of Hashim Ali, a Hassanzai Khan, on the hamlet of Odigram near Ghamian in Agror. Two men are reported to have been murdered and two kidnapped. It appears that the raid was committed in retaliation for the arrest of a man who is now under trial for murder in connection with another raid.

LARGE numbers of labourers (5,000 or 6,000), mostly Hazaras and Ghilzais, have collected near the Khojhak Pass to work on the military road and the Khwaja Amran railway extension. A Pioneer Regiment may be employed on the work in the spring. The Political Agent in Pishin started on the 24th instant to go to the Khojhak, but he was stopped by a heavy snow-storm and severe weather.

H. H. THE Gaekwar is expected to leave Brindisi on the 9th of February.

THE ancient Chinese City of Haigen, north of Ningpo, which was submerged by the sea, a thousand years ago, has lately been exposed to view, and a large number of vases, plates, and other utensils of the Sung dynasty were recovered.

DURING the recent rise of copper one Birmingham firm, which was fortunate enough to have possessed large stocks before the rise took place, made nearly £90,000 profit by the transaction, which would enable it to pay a dividend of at least 50 per cent. In consequence of the rise, brass bed-steads have been advanced 15 per cent.

A CHINESE native paper announces that the Chinese Government has resolved to pay back to the United States a large sum of money, being the unclaimed balance of the Wyoming indemnity, and hints that the latter might imitate the example by refunding to China the much larger balance of unclaimed indemnity paid to America thirty years ago.

THAT mammoth ship, the *Great Eastern*, the launching of which alone cost £60,000, has been purchased by a Liverpool firm of metal merchants, and it is their intention to break her up in the course of the next few months, and sell her as old metal. This magnificent vessel, has a gross registered tonnage of 18,915 tons, a length of 692 feet, a breadth of 83 feet, and a depth of 60 feet.

GOVERNMENT have directed that the counter-signature of medical certificates should be made by the Surgeon-General himself, even when he is on tour, and not by his Secretary.

IT IS calculated by the largest "book-maker" of Australia that the sum of £20,000 is annually lost and won by betting in those colonies. This sum is nearly equal to the total annual revenues of all the Australasian colonies.

MR. STEVENS, the American bicyclist, who rode round the world on his iron horse, says that after riding 1,400 miles through the Punjab, Oudh and Bengal, he is "at a loss to express his admiration of the enterprise that has belted India with the magnificent highways he found there. The finest is the Grand Trunk road from Peshawur, on the Afghan frontier, to Calcutta, 1,600 miles, an unbroken highway of marvellous perfection. And all this in addition to the various lines of railways, the best constructed on the globe."

THE *Pioneer* says:—The persistent outcry about the dislocation of the mail service in Oudh and the North-West in consequence of the failure of correspondence between the East India and Oudh and Rohilkhund Railway time-tables, is to bear fruit in official Congress. The above Companies and the North-Western line, as also the Post Office, will send representatives; the consulting Engineers for Railways in Oudh and Bengal will also attend. Orders for the assembly, which is to take place in Calcutta, have been issued. We are glad to find in this action of Government an agreement in our recent protest that the boycotting tendencies of competing Companies cannot be permitted to derange the postal system of an Empire.'

TUESDAY, 31ST JANUARY.

THERE was a strange scene, a few days ago, at a sale in Edinburgh. An old and ordinary copy of the Bible was put up, and the bidding went on between two ladies until the incredible price of £160 was reached, when the hammer fell amidst loud cheering. It transpired that the Bible (the intrinsic value of which was perhasps half-a-crown,) had belonged to a deceased relative of the ladies, each of whom was determined to obtain it, and as they could afford to indulge the fancy, their relative's estate benefited greatly by their obstinacy.—*Truth.*

A PARIS journalist recently published an inquiry into the smoking habits of Parisian ladies, and some of his facts are extremely curious. There are three establishments in Paris solely devoted to the manufacture of ladies' cigarettes, and they do a roaring trade. These cigarettes, for the most part, contain a *soupcon* of opium, so that the cigarette-smoking Parisienne doubly narcotises herself. Scent also is freely used, and the writer declares that he saw whole bales of delicate Turkish tobacco stewing in liquid scent. "The fragrance of the Turkey leaf is not good enough for them," he indignantly protests, "they must needs add this mephitic essence of roses or carnation or heliotropes." This journalist rages against the use of tobacco by Parisiennes, not because the habit is unfeminine, but because tobacco blackens the teeth of its votaries.

THE river trade of Assam is important and miscellaneous. More than forty millions of oranges, valued at nearly two lakhs of rupees, were last year sent down the Surma river, and 527,000 bamboos followed the same route. Potatoes, which are grown almost entirely in the Khasi Hills, were sent out of the province to the value of nearly three lakhs of rupees. The export of coal from Assam continues to increase, and more than doubled on the amount of the previous year. This is entirely due to the increased output of the Makum mines, near Debrugarh, which, besides furnishing a large export, supply nearly all the coal used in the Valley. Nevertheless there continues to be a large import of coal into Assam from Calcutta.

THERE has been a great treasure trove in the Golconda Fort. While excavating the foundations of the Golconda Brigade Mess-house, the workmen came upon two copper vessels containing 130 pounds weight of gold bars and ancient gold coins called *huns*, evidently minted in the days of the Rajas of Golconda. There was also a quantity of silver, the total value being about one-and-a quarter lakhs. It all goes to the Nizam's privy purse.

THE *Lancet* says:—An interesting physiological point is being now discussed in Paris. M. Zola, in his last work, "La Terre," depicts an intoxicated ass, and concludes with an account of the animal in the throes of sickness. M. Sarcey has taken offence at this unpleasant piece of realism, and in a review of the work affirmed that the ass was incapable of being sick, and brought forward the evidence of a Veterinary Surgeon to the effect that the structure of the stomach of an ass renders vomiting impossible M. Zola writes back and turns the tables on his adversary by stating that he had read up the principles of equine or asinine physiology before venturing to describe the matter in question, and refers the Veterinary Surgeon to his studies. In point of fact, M. Zola is perfectly correct. It is commonly but incorrectly asserted that the horse and the ass cannot vomit. It is true that they vomit rarely and with great difficulty, the reasons being that the stomach is small, that the œsophagus opens into the stomach much nearer the pylorus than in the dog or man, so that the cardiac portion forms a large sac, against which the contents of the stomach are pressed when efforts to vomit are made. The contents of the stomach are, moreover, usually rather dry, and do not remain long in the interior of that viscus, and finally the œsophageal aperture is small and highly muscular. The latter point is undoubtedly of importance, since, horses, and we presume asses also, vomit readily enough when by disease or operation the cardiac sphincter is paralysed.

SIR Henry Morland has sent the following report to the Bombay Government on the subject of the recent cyclone:—"I have the honor to report, for the information of H. E. the Governor-in-Council, that at noon, on the 4th inst., telephonic intimation was received at this office that a small cyclone was approaching this port, from the southward. At noon, on the same date, the storm-warning signals were exhibited for the shipping, and all necessary measures were immediately taken for the safety of vessels lying in the harbour. During the afternoon of the day in question, as anticipated, the cyclone passed over the harbour to seaward. A considerable amount of damage was done to the native shipping in the harbour, and several country crafts were lost at sea on the same day. A considerable amount of salvage has been recovered, consisting chiefly of bales of cotton, and other articles, which will be dealt with in accordance with the law. It does not appear to me that any further steps need be taken in regard to the loss of these boats.'

WEDNESDAY, 1ST FEBRUARY.

THE *Times* celebrated its hundredth birthday on Sunday, January 1, with a flourish of trumpets. From all parts of Europe congratulations and good wishes reached the editor and proprietor. This national news-sheet, as it has been for many decades now, was born under the name of the *Universal Daily Register* in 1785, and adopted its present title three years later. It has always been the property of the Walter family. Its first law report was the trial of Warren Hastings. In 1827, when Lieutenant Waghorn opened the overland route to India, John Walter showed that he had in him the stuff of which great newspaper conductors are made. A *Times* courier awaited at Marseilles the arrival of mail boats from Egypt, posted across France, employed a fast cutter from Boulogne to Dover, and took the express to London. In this way Walter secured news before the Government. Similar efforts along the whole line of the century have secured the *Times* a quite unique reputation for early information and great usefulness. During seventy years only four men have occupied the editorial chair in Printing House-square—Thomas Barnes in 1817, Delane in 1841, Chenery in 1877, and the present editor, George Earle Buckle, who was appointed in 1884. As we have been recently reminded when the *Times* came into existence the English language was spoken by some fifteen millions; now over 100 millions speak it, and some 260 millions in India, China, and Japan are learning it. 'Like all other human institutions, the *Times* has been guilty of blunders in the past, and may not be faultless in the present, but in regard both to its present position, and to its history, it is not only the first newspaper in England, but in the world. It has become a part of the national being, and it is hardly possible to conceive English life without it.'

THE official income of the President of the United States amounts to £10,000 per annum. The Emperor of Germany receives no income at all in that capacity, though a sum is placed at his disposal for granting pensions and gratuities. But as King of Prussia His Majesty's revenues amount to £1,678 a day, out of which the Royal Princes have to be provided for. The President of the French Republic receives about £48,000 a year. The Queen's income, by the Civil List, is £409,000 a year.

THE trial of Mr. M. Macauliffe, Divisional and Sessions Judge, Sialkot, on a charge of defamation, under Section 500 of the Indian Penal Code, brought against him by Mr. W. E. Browne, Pleader of the Chief Court, has been fixed for Friday the 3rd of February, at Lahore, in the Court of Mr. Silcock, C.S., Justice of the Peace, and Magistrate of the 1st Class.

THE Maharaja of Jodhpore has made an offer to the Government of India of ten lakhs of rupees, to be paid at the rate of two lakhs a year, towards the defence of the North-West Frontier.

COLONEL PRIDEAUX has presented his report on the affairs of the ex-King of Oudh, and the Government are now considering the allotment of pensions to the family. The title, as is well known, died with the late King.

WE are glad to hear that Raja Amir Hasan Khan Bahadur, member of the Viceregal Council, and Pre-

sident of the Talnqdars' Association, Oudh, who has been ailing for some time past, has now perfectly recovered from his illness. There have been rejoicings at Mahmudabad in Sittapur, the Raja's place of residence, to celebrate the recovery.

THURSDAY, 2ND FEBRUARY.

THE Government will leave Calcutta this year on the 24th of March, the offices reopening at Simla on 9th of April.

DRUNK or Dying? This momentous question has to be sometimes decided, in the absence of a doctor, by policemen and others who find a man lying insensible on the ground. Nor is it by any means an easy matter, especially when with kindly intention some lookers on may have dosed the sick man with brandy. Dr. Von Wedekind has recently published a simple and easy method of distinguishing between feigned, hysterial, or alcoholic patients and those who are suffering from serious brain disease. The method which Dr. Von Wedekind has practised successfully in the New York Ambulance Service deserves to be taught in every ambulance class and cannot be too generally known. He says that by simply pressing with the thumbs on the supra orbital notches of the patient with a steadily increasing force, one may, with a certainty of success, detect a malingerer, bring an unconscious alcoholic to his senses, and thus differentiate on the spot between alcoholic and other comas, as well as cause cessation of hysterial convulsions, and in many instances violent alcoholic delirium. Stand or kneel at the patient's head, fix the tips of the thumbs and press steadily over the supra orbital notches (those depressions which every one can detect in his own skull by feeling along the upper margins of the orbits slightly to the nose sides of the centre points) Never mind occasionally a yell or struggle of the person; it is impossible to do any harm unless you let your thumbs slip and press suddenly upon the eyeballs. With steady and gradually increasing pressure applied for a half a minute to a minute the result is accomplished.

AN anonymous French writer, in illustrating the advantages of a representative system, remarks that "Such is the respect of the English for their Parliament, that when it is sitting, crimes are extremely rare; but as soon as it rises, the papers are filled with accounts of the most horrible atrocities." The writer does not evidently know that, when Parliament is sitting, the report of its proceedings is of such length that there is no room for anything else.

A NUMBER of the local headmen of tribes have obeyed the Amir's order to wait upon him at Jellalabad, but those to the East of Dakkha and Bhosawal show no signs of complying.

THE Jubilee Register containing the names of those who subscribed on Jubilee cards to the Countess of Dufferin's Fund goes to England to the Queen by this mail. The whole sum collected amounted to £1,890 and Rs. 4,82,800; the main value of which is that it has enabled the Central Committee to complete the endowment necessary to ensure the Fund's continuity.

LIEUTENANT Colonel Yate, telegraphing from Khamiab on the 23rd of January, states that he and Major Peacocke have been permitted to return by the Russian railway. He expected to break up his mission by the 28th of January, and to proceed with the Russian party by boat to Charjui. His escort marches back under Subadar Mahomed Hussien to Quetta, which it should reach by the middle of April next.

THE Total customs receipts during last year, in Bengal, show a marked improvement, figures being higher than those of any other year under comparison. In net duty an increase of Rs. 1,327,950, or 6·3 per cent., over 1885-86, is observed, owing principally, to larger clearances of salt. Import duty, exclusive of salt also advanced by Rs. 106,372, or 7·6 per cent., in consequence, chiefly, of heavy quantities of spirituous liquors having been cleared from bond immediately before the passing of Act II of 1887, in January last. Decline in export duty Rs. 230,281, or 12·7 per cent., followed from falling-off in shipments of rice. From returns of several ports, it is seen that net revenue of Calcutta has risen by 6·7 per cent; and that of Chittagong, by 25 per cent., while net receipts of all other ports have fallen off in varying proportions. Total value of imports into Bengal, exclusive of Government transactions, rose from Rs. 278,705,795 to Rs. 297,929,855. Improvement occurred chiefly in foreign merchandize, which exceeded three crores and thirty-five lakhs of rupees. Imports of treasure, contrary wise, declined by more than one crore and fifty-six lakhs. In the coasting trade, imports of merchandize advanced by about nine lakhs, and those of treasure by over four lakhs. Value of export trade amounted to Rs. 433,980,426, against Rs. 408,510,234 in 1885-86. In foreign trade there was an improvement of Rs. 25,227,147, consisting of an increase of Rs. 24,862,322 in value of merchandize entirely of Indian produce, and of Rs. 364,825 in treasure. Total exports of our coasting trade advanced by Rs. 243,045 or ·3 per cent.

FRIDAY, 3RD FEBRUARY.

MR. FREDERIC HARRISON delivered his usual New Year's address on Sunday (January.1) on the progress of events during the past twelve months according to Positivist lights. Glancing at general politics, he advocated once again a separate Parliament subject to Imperial union, and declared that "the policy of arbitrary violence is contenting no one, solving no problem, founding nothing." He spoke of "the amiable Mr. Balfour" as "masquerading in the sword and helmet of Cromwell." Speaking of Positivism and its work he said, that though the Comtist ideal may be mistaken, it is a good thing, for it has never separated its followers from good men and women. The slow advance of Positivism, he explained, was on the ground of the very high demands which it makes both intellectually and morally. "It is," he said, "an attempt to change religion from a supernatural to a philosophical basis; it is the only possible combination of religion and science, it does not seek to be accepted on impulse, but on conviction; every brain must think it out for itself. Positivism is an adult and mature form of religion; it is not necessary to become as a little child in order to receive it, but it is necessary to be a man in growth and in understanding. Such a religion must make way by slow and permeating methods."

BOMBAY UNIVERSITY BILL.—The *Bombay Gazette* writes:—"The Special Committee appointed by the Senate to report on the draft of the University Bill has nearly completed its labours and will present the report by the 1st February. The report deals with the Bill with great respect, accepting it on the whole, as the Senate did, as embodying very desirable provisions for the future administration of the University. But on some minor points amendments are recommended which will meet the views of those who spoke at the recent meetings of the Senate in favour of giving a wider range of liberty than was contemplated in the draft to the University to adapt itself in the future to changing requirements and fresh needs. The qualification for fellowship which was to have been restricted to those who hold certain degrees is disapproved of by the Committee, which recommends that all graduates shall be eligible for fellowship. It is also recommended that provision should be made in the case of those who, though without University degrees, have professional acquirements and status which would qualify them for a position in the Senate. As, under the draft of the Bill as it stands, the two faculties of law and arts would outweigh the rest, the system of cumulative voting is suggested as a means of securing to the minority a certain share of influence. The right to institute new faculties as occasion may arise, which in the draft was subject to the consent of Government, should, in the opinion of the Committee, be vested in the Senate of the University."

THE old difficulty of ascertaining whether pensioners, whose pensions are still drawn with commendable regularity, are yet alive, or whether the pensions are being drawn by others not entitled to them in different districts of the Punjab, has again been engaging the attention of Government. The length of the list of pensioners over 70 years of age would almost seem to imply that the latter hypothesis is frequently correct. Deputy Commissioners are in future to be moved by local Treasury officers to hold special inquiry, whenever the identity or existence of a pensioner is considered doubtful.

THE Vice-Director of the Russian Medical Department, Dr. Bubnoff, has recently issued a report on Sanitation in Russia, in which he remarks that no working sanitary system can be said to exist in the empire. The death-rate in some districts ranges from 60 to 80 per 1000, of which an enormous proportion is due to mortality amongst children—in some places, indeed, as much as 79 per cent. of the total mortality. In spite of a high birth-rate, the population is increasing only at the rate of 1 per cent. Every year some 2,800,000 persons die in Russia. According to Dr. Bubnoff's statistics, something like 1,000,000 of these deaths may fairly be traced to preventable causes. There is a great paucity of medical men, of whom there are only about 5,000 altogether for 100,000,000 inhabitants, and these of course tend to congregate in the towns, so that in rural districts doctors are to be met with only at long intervals.

SATURDAY 4TH FEBRUARY.

THE *Rast Gofter* has the following remarks on the Bombay Insolvent Debtors' Court:—"Who will even expose the nature of the inner working of the Insolvency Court—the malpractices which are at present shrouded in mysterious darkness? It is a matter of common notoriety that in this court all the business is not transacted in a direct, straightforward manner, and people point to horses, and carriages and houses owned by some of the low-salaried men in the department, and ask how on earth they could manage to live so well. The greater portion of the suitors who have to dance attendance in this court consists of those who have been reduced to helpless poverty, and while their creditors can get nothing out of them, the 'flies' hovering about this court always contrive to get more or less from these unfortunates. What are the accounts of these insolvents? What do their creditors get out of the ruins of their fortune, and when? What extra expenses, not included in the provisions enacted by law, have to be incurred by those who come to seek relief in this court? These and many other questions most certainly demand an inquiry and a satisfactory answer. The Chief Justice and his colleagues in the High Court would, no doubt, be glad to institute an inquiry. But it cannot be set on foot only on the strength of random assertions made by irresponsible persons. If the way to relief of honest debtors is to be made easy, some one ought to come forward with definite proofs of the malpractices which are said to be common in the inner-department of this court."

A MADRASSEE Brahmin, who for many years has lived the existence of a professional beggar, was found dead in his house, at the Sudder Bazaar, Jubbulpore, on Sunday morning. The police took charge of his house, and discovered amongst the bundles of dirty rags a number of small parcels most ingeniously sewn together, in which were various sums of money. In other parts of the room were found secreted a number of gold bangles and rings of great value together with a parcel containing some diamonds. Pice pieces to the value of about Rs. 100 were discovered in a hole beneath his bed. Altogether jewellery and money amounting to some five hundred rupees were unearthed. It has been ascertained that he had entrusted some five thousand rupees with a banker in the city, but he died before he could mention the name of the person. The most remarkable feature in the case is that the day previous to his death the man took up his old position under a tree and implored the passers-by to take pity on him as he was starving. He was a man of about forty years of age and as far as can be ascertained had no relatives.

THE normal area under wheat in India is 26,178,900 acres. The wheat area in the Punjab, at the end of November last, was estimated at 5,588,500 acres, or 6 per cent. below the area of the preceding year. The decrease is ascribed to the unusually early cessation of the rains, and probably also to the fact that cultivators have sown the cheaper grains in preference to wheat, as the price of wheat seed at sowing time was very high in the Province. In the North-Western Provinces and Oudh the area placed under wheat is about the same as last year's area (4,962,900 acres.) The prospects of the wheat crop in the Central Provinces were, up to the beginning of December, generally very favourable both as regards the area sown and the condition of the crop. In the Bombay Presidency the area under wheat, at the end of November, was estimated at 2,153,000 acres. There is no reason to apprehend any diminution in the proportion of the wheat harvest available. The exports of wheat from India were 5½ millions of cwts. in 1876-77, 7½ millions in 1880-81, nearly 20 millions in 1881-82, 14 millions in 1882-83, 21 millions in 1883-84, nearly 16 millions in 1884-85, and 21 millions in 1885-86. The official value of the wheat exported was nearly 2 millions sterling in 1876-77, and 8 millions sterling in 1885-86.

THE INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.
(210, BOW-BAZAR STREET.)
(SESSION 1887-8.)

PRACTICAL CLASS in Physics under Babu Jagadish Chunder Bose, B. Sc., on *Wednesday* the *8th February* 1888, at 3-30 P. M.

LECTURE by the Rev. Father Lafont, S. J., C. I. E., on *Thursday*, the *9th Inst.*, at 7 P. M.

Subject: Refraction of Light (Continued.)

PRACTICAL CLASS in Chemistry under Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F. C. S., on *Saturday*, the *11th Inst.*, at 4 P. M.

Subject: Acids and Urine.

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M. D.,
February 4th, 1888. *Honorary Secretary.*

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The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1888.

FISHERY RIGHTS IN BENGAL.

THE recent Meherpore Fishery case had opened out so large a field for disputes, that the only wonder is that offences of the same class have not been more plentiful than they have been. The High Court in setting aside the orders of the lower court ruled that fish in running streams, *beels* and other large natural reservoirs of water, must be regarded as *ferœ naturœ*, and that the owner of the fishery could not be said to be in such possession of the fish that their appropriation by a stranger could come within the purview of the sections of the Penal Code dealing with offences against property, namely, theft or criminal trespass. Such a ruling, however correct in law, could not help being a fruitful source of mischief and loss to owners of *jalkar* rights in the Mafassil and furnishing unscrupulous litigants with game enough to keep their hands engaged. Few incidents of Mufassil landholding are subject to more disputes than *jalkar* rights and with the hair-splitting differences and nice distinctions of law, the scope of litigation naturally comes to be widened more than ever. The High Court, however, considered the question in some of its bearings, and did all to see if the offence could be brought under the punishable offences of the Penal Code; but their efforts were fruitless owing to the faulty construction of the framework of the Code. The vaunted comprehensiveness of the Code disappeared, and for once it was demonstrated that the boast of the early British legislators of India that no offence could escape out of the drag net of the Indian Penal Code was groundless. Every offender interfering with the fishery rights of the owners must now be acquitted as a matter of course, owing to the inability of the law to touch him, unless he should by special circumstances place himself within the purview of one or other of the sections of the Penal Code. The Meherpore case has been a test case which will be, and is being, naturally followed up in the different parts of the country to its legitimate consequences, and the result is that owners of fishery are wholly at the mercy of any one that may choose to interfere with their rights and against whom at law there is absolutely no remedy, though equity professedly allows no wrong to go without one. The High Court has in the most unmistakable manner pronounced the existing law to be totally powerless in dealing with cases of this description. It now, therefore, behoves the legislature to step in and provide the necessary special legislation for the purpose. Had the cases of miscarriage of justice in this direction been in any sense isolated, or were they confined to any specially affected locality, we should have ourselves been cautious enough not to invoke Governmental aid for needless legislation. But the facts are completely otherwise, and the grievance is wide-spread.

We notice that similar cases have recently cropped up in Assam. A Divisional Bench of the High Court consisting of the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Norris and the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ghose have, in disposing of two references by the Deputy Commissioner of Sibsagor, more thoroughly considered the question of fishery rights in all its bearings. The facts of the case, which came up to them by reference are such as frequently occur in the Mufassil and when the High Court repeatedly confesses itself powerless to afford remedy in the clearest cases of injustice, owing to the existing state of the law, the time is high indeed for the interference of the legislature. It is not for a judicial tribunal to dictate to the legislature. But any one carefully reading the judgments we have above referred to, will be convinced that none desires a change in the law more urgently than the High Court itself. It is the duty of the Hon'ble Judges to remove people's grievances and to administer even-handed justice. It becomes, therefore, very painful to them when they are handicapped in the discharge of their duty by weak points in the law they are called upon to interpret and administer.

The gravity of the situation will be made patent if we briefly notice the facts of the cases and the mode in which the High Court has dealt with them. The first case, that of Ahir Dome and Bhagiram Dome had reference to a running stream, and the second, that of Myaram Sarma, *vs.*, Nichola Katoni and others, to an open tank that regularly overflows with the annual inundation. For brevity's sake we shall call the first the River case, the second the Tank case. Both were tried by Mr. Melitus, Assistant Commissioner of Sibsagor, and in both the accused were convicted of theft, mischief, criminal trespass, criminal mis-appropriation, unlawful assembly, insult and intimidation. The latter counts of charges were quite subsidiary, and we are not concerned in noticing them. Theft of fish constituted the essence of all the charges, and in the first case the High Court deals with the charges at some length. The *Jalkar* right of the river had been leased to the complainant by Government. Decisions of the Calcutta High Court and the Madras High Court in support of the plea that no offence had been committed, were cited for the defence. The Assistant Commissioner, however, did not choose to feel himself bound by some of these decisions and says in his judgment:—"The sum total of these rulings is (1) (except the Meherpore case of 1887) it appears and is admitted that fish in a river or in an open tank or *beel* are the property of the holder of the fishery, (2) but they are not in such possession that their taking constitutes theft, (3) that trespass on a fishery in a public river is not criminal trespass, the river not being in the exclusive possession of the fishery-holder and the public having the right of entry in it. These rulings are rulings of Divisional Benches. So far as I know the matter has never been fully argued or referred to a full Bench." The High Court has very justly deprecated this wanton disregard of its authority. In reversing the conviction it says:—"It was his bounden duty to follow them (the rulings of the High Court) so far as they were applicable and not to disregard them as he evidently does on the ground that "they are rulings of Divisional Benches' and also on the ground that 'so far as he knows the matter has never been fully argued." Where the Assistant Commissioner derives this knowledge from we are at a loss to conceive. But whether the matter was fully argued or not the Assistant Commissioner was bound to follow these rulings as rulings of the highest Court in the Presidency, until they were over-ruled by decisions of the Full Bench." And further on the judges observe:—"We cannot, however, close this judgment without once more saying that throughout the case the Assistant Commissioner has displayed a wanton disregard of the authority of the rulings of this court which cannot but be gravely censured." And we read in another place: "The Assistant Commissioner was bound to have guided himself by the rulings of this Court and not by any rulings of the Madras High Court. We may here observe, throughout his jugdment in this case the Assistant Commissioner has displayed a clear and deliberate intention to ignore the decisions of this Court—a spirit which cannot but be deprecated in a judicial officer who is bound to follow the decisions of the Superior Court." We are glad the High Court has maintained its dignity so strongly. In the face of an expression of opinion like this no judicial officer will dare again to put his own construction on the law, and we shall probably hear no more of any person ever being convicted of offences of the description dealt with in the case. That makes it all the more necessary that the Legislature should interfere without further loss of time.

II.

In dealing with the merits of the case the judgment says:

'The river from which the fish were taken is a public river; whether or no it is navigable throughout the year we do not know. The Assistant Commissioner, however, says (for which there is no evidence on the record) that it is a "river navigable for small boats for a part of the year." Assuming that it is as the Assistant Commissioner represents, we take it that it is a flowing river and that fish enter it and leave it at their pleasure and that the lessee of the fishery has no control over them. The fish are not stored nor bred there nor confined within an enclosed space and therefore free to go wherever they please. They are *ferœ naturœ*, and as such no body can be said to be in possession of them, and, therefore no theft can be committed in respect of such fish. This is not only the common law in England, but it is a law which has been accepted both in Bengal and Madras for many years. The Assistant Commissioner, however, while discussing Section 379 chooses to say in the first place and apparently without any authority that the "*ferœ naturœ*" theory does not apply to fish in this country, though it applies to wild birds and animals" and that "fishery in large and small rivers, beels &c., has been settled down from 1793 downwards." No doubt fishery is a property in this country, but the question is whether fish in a river can be said to be property in the *possession* of the person who may have the fishery right and that the infringement of that right is a criminal offence as defined in Section 378 of the Indian Penal Code. We are decidedly of opinion that it is not.

We observe that the Assistant Commissioner, while he felt himself pressed by the authority of the Meherpore case of 1887 and the two Madras cases quoted before him, sought to get over them by saying that "it is the custom as the floods subside to put bamboo fencing across the bed of the river and other outlets so as to shut in the fish, and that in the present case the fencing had not been put up on the date of the occurence as it does not pay to put it up till towards the end of the rains." We do not know in what sense the word *custom* is used; but taking it in the sense that it is in some cases the practice to put up fencing when the floods subside for the purpose of shutting up the fish, and supposing that while the fish are thus shut up they are in the possession of the owner of the *Jalkar*, in this particular case the argument cannot possibly avail, for the offence is said to have been committed in the month of September while floods must have been high and when, as the Assistant Commissioner himself says, no fencing had been put up."

We quote this part of the judgment *in extenso* in order to show that even periodical assertion of proprietory right by way of fencing in the portion of the river of which the *jalkar* vests in the owner is not, according to the High Court, enough to constitute possession throughout the year in the sense of any offence being capable of commission in regard to it.

With regard to the charge of criminal misappropriation the Assistant Commissioner observes that it has "apparently never been considered by the High Court." Now, however, that the point has been raised, the High Court disposes of it as follows:—

"The Assistant Commissioner may or may not be right in this; but if the point has never been considered it is because nobody ever thought of raising it before. Criminal misappropriation takes place when the possession has been innocently come by, but where by a subsequent change of intention or from knowledge of some new fact with which the party was not previously acquainted the retaining becomes wrongful and fraudulent. In this particular case there cannot be any pretence for saying that subsequent to the act of the taking of the fish anything happened which constituted the retaining of the fish wrongful and fraudulent. The intention was the one and same throughout, and no new facts occurred which could possibly change the character of the seizure and retention of the fish."

The charge of mischief is also disposed of on the ground that no "diminution in value of, or change in, the property" could take place under the circumstances narrated above. The charge of criminal trespass cannot stand either, because the river "is not in the exclusive possession of the complainant" and there was no criminal intention of the accused. The charges of unlawful assembly, insult and criminal intimidation not being tenable under the circumstances of the case, the conviction has been set aside and the fine, if paid, has been ordered to be refunded.

The Tank Case is similar to the River Case in some of its features. The Assistant Commissioner says in his judgment that the complainant 'did not cultivate the fish; they entered the tank in flood time. The tank is a tank in the

pathar (fields) connected with the river by jams and hollows." But the tank unlike the Meherpore beel is "partially at least excavated." The Assistant Commissioner referred the case to the Deputy Commissioner, because "it is one of great importance to the public and the Government." The Deputy Commissioner thought the dismissal of the charges by the Assistant Commissioner wrong, because "the ruling is of a Division Bench and there are rulings in the opposite sense." Both the Assistant and the Deputy are roundly rated, as in the other case, for superciliously setting at naught the decisions of the High Court. The Court observes that:—

'The tank is an artificial piece of water and of comparatively small dimensions. It is not a natural reservoir of water, and there is no assertion of any customary right to fish in this tank, as was found to exist in the Meherpore case of 1887 by the Magistrate and upon which finding this Court held that there could be no dishonest taking of the fish when the accused went to fish relying on that custom; and in this view of the matter the facts of this case are clearly distinguishable from those in the Meherpore case, and we should have been quite prepared to affirm the conviction in this case had it appeared that the fish had been at the time of the occurrence in the possession of the owner of the tank, that is to say, if they had been restrained of their natural liberty and liable to be taken according to the pleasure of the owner, or in other words, if they had been practically in the power and dominion of the owner of the tank. . . . . But it seems clear that they were not so. The tank was evidently not enclosed and shut upon all sides; the fish were not reared and preserved; . . . on the date of the occurrence the inundation was high and the fish were at perfect liberty to leave the tank. This being the state of things the fish were *ferœ naturæ*, and not in the power and dominion of the owner of the tank. . . . For these reasons we are of opinion that the conviction for the offence of theft cannot stand."

And the Court further considers that the other charges cannot stand for the reasons enunciated in the judgment in the River Case. It is needless to dilate any more on the patent injustice of cases like these. Under the existing state of things, one may have to pay the Government its dues on account of the *jalkar* lease to the very last pice and still have to stand by helpless when a stranger comes in and denudes his leasehold of all its live-stock, without the law literally lifting a finger in his aid. As the barest act of justice it behoves the Government to devise means by special legislation for remedying this anomalous condition of things, for it belies the honored tradition about equity permitting no wrong to go un-remedied.

REPRESENTATIVE COUNCILS IN INDIA.

The current number of the *Asiatic Quarterly Review* contains a very able and thoughtful article on Representative Councils in India from the pen of the Hon'ble Sir Henry Harrison. Sir Henry's claim to speak with authority on such a subject cannot for an instant be questioned. He has, to use his own words, "had for several years past to carry on the municipal administration of Calcutta, by means of a board of seventy-two councillors, in which what is called 'the Babu element' has been far more supreme than it could ever become in any Bengal Council, such as is contemplated in the resolutions of the Congress." Indeed, the experience which Sir Henry Harrison has had of representative bodies of Native gentlemen is unique and exceptional, the view expressed by him in the article under notice must, therefore, carry great weight with the public.

Sir Henry alludes to the serious evils which result from the exclusion of the people from the management of their own affairs and points out the advantages which would accrue from the establishment of Representative Councils. He has no hesitation whatever in saying that if the experiment is only made, the benefits which will result from such councils will be so great and so conspicuous that no one will wish to revert to the system of nomination. He observes:—"The race acerbity which now prevails in India to so deplorable an extent is very largely due to mutual ignorance; and nothing is better calculated to diminish this acerbity than association in public work and the free interchange of opinions. It is almost invariably seen that those Europeans who work most with educated natives most respect them; while very few indeed of the natives who associate with Europeans remain irreconciliable. Our administration in India is neither inefficient nor discreditable, and we have no reason to fear the discussions and criticisms to which it would be exposed by conciliatory action." Then, Sir Henry Harrison shows that another beneficial result of the establishment of Representative Councils would be an improvement in the tone of the Press. In such a council the Governor-General or the Provincial Governor will assume the *role* of moderator or arbitrator, and officials will develop a capacity for explaining the action of the Government in a popular manner and for carrying with them their colleagues in the council. And what will be the result? "It will soon be found," writes Sir Henry Harrison, "that the Government carry with them the approbation of the independent, the wise, the wealthy, the moderate and the enlightened natives, in at least the general outlines of their policy, and such evidence will not only tone down to an infinite extent the now almost invariably hostile criticisms of the native press, since they will be finding fault with their own countrymen, but when such criticism is indulged in, the sting will be effectually taken out of it, when it will be seen that the chosen representatives of the community do not concur in it. Moreover, the European press will not be slow to criticise the proceedings in the new councils and then the native press will take up the cudgels in their defence as they now do on behalf of the Municipalities. The Government, acting in concert with its Council, will sometimes find support in one quarter and sometimes in another; the crusade against all that is official on the part of the native press will cease and a far healthier state of public opinion be generated." Again, Sir Henry Harrison remarks with perfect justice that representative institutions would help to develop the national character such as is only possible under free institutions. He insists upon the urgent importance of familiarising the minds of the Indian people with the problems and responsibilities of governing, and points out that if people be kept in leading-strings and taught to look up to alien rulers for managing their affairs, their national character will never be developed.

Bengal being the most advanced province in the Empire, the Bengali naturally takes a prominent part in such movements as the National Congress. But the simple truth is that he does not stand alone. Speaking of the National Congress Sir Henry Harrison says:—"The educated natives of Bombay and Madras tread close on his heels. Some who are excellent judges maintain that they outstrip him. Even in the North-Western Provinces, in the Punjab, where English education is comparatively backward, the few who are thus educated at once fall into line with their brethren in the more advanced provinces. Schoolboys the delegates most certainly were not. Many who took a prominent part were very old men, noted for their conservative proclivities, such as Raja Rajendralala Mitra, C. I. E., and above all, Babu Joykissen Mookerjee, the father of a member of the Viceroy's Council, and a veteran land-owner. A large proportion of the delegates were no doubt young, but it may be taken as absolutely certain that the elders of the educated party are entirely at one with their juniors, so far as the claims put forward by the Congress are concerned." Well does Sir Henry Harrison say that the National Congress is the result of a policy endorsed by the universal assent of many generations of statesmen, and that it is the legitimate and inevitable outcome of that policy. This being the case, Sir Henry advises the Government to assume a friendly attitude towards the Congress movement. The wisdom of this policy seems to him so self-evident that he assumes that it will commend itself to all right-minded and unprejudiced persons.

Sir Henry then examines the proposals of the Congress regarding the reorganisation of the Legislative Councils, and he supports them with the limitation that representation in the Viceroy's Council may be postponed till the experiment has been fairly tried in the Provincial Councils. With this limitation Sir Henry Harrison would establish Representative Councils very much on the lines sketched out at the Congress. He does not deny that the admission of fifty or sixty well-educated and intelligent Native gentlemen to share with their European fellow-subjects in the work of governing a large province like Bengal, will not be an adequate remedy for the serious evils which result from the exclusion of the people. But he holds that even this small measure will be productive of highly beneficial effects. He says:—"These fifty or sixty men will carry with them the confidence of their educated countrymen, which the official hierarchy has in some measure lost; they will have no wish to make radical or fundamental changes, and as the problems of administration are made clear to them, they will find that, save in such questions of detail as in legitimate matters for difference of opinion, no great improvement is possible. A *regime* of dictating and drilling will have given place to one of discussion and persuasion. * * * The better classes will no longer look upon a Government as alien in which they largely participate."

There is one defect in the paper under notice which we are bound to point out. Sir Henry Harrison has not examined the almost insuperable difficulties that beset the question. It is impossible to arrive at a correct decision unless these difficulties be fully discussed. No one will deny that a complete representation of the people in Legislative Councils will be a great gain to the country; so far the general proposition is universally admitted. But the problem which now presents itself for solution is, is it, or is it not, *possible*, under the present social, economical, and educational conditions of the country, to have an organization which would return to Councils members who could fully represent all sections of Society? This is a question which must be thoroughly examined before any theory about representative institutions can be safely entertained. This much is universally admitted, however, that a reform of the present constitution of the Councils has become absolutely necessary. We have often indicated in what direction this reform should be effected. The Indian Councils' Act should be amended, and privileges given to unofficial members more extended than those they at present possess. The members of our Legislative Councils do not at present possess the right of interpellation—the right of questioning the acts of Government, and of demanding information and explanations regarding measures vitally affecting the welfare of the country. It is these privileges which we should certainly ask Government to give us. It is vain to demand 'Home Rule' for India. It is vain to ask for an Indian Parliament. If we be moderate in our demands, if we ask for our legitimate share in the Government of the country, and pray for a larger number of unofficial members, more extended privileges for them, and the right of interpellation in Legislative Councils, our demands are likely to meet with the consideration they deserve. All who have read the Jubilee speech of the Viceroy are aware that His Excellency is sincerely desirous to do all that lies in his power to associate our countrymen with their European fellow-subjects in the government of the country. His Excellency has publicly and emphatically declared that he would consider himself happy if he could during his tenure of the Viceroyalty secure the admission of some of the wealthiest, best educated and most intelligent Native gentlemen to share with their European fellow-subjects in the work of governing the country. But we must not demand more than can be fairly given to us, regard being had to those imperial interests which it is the first care of all Governments to protect and safe-guard. We earnestly hope, however, that a reform of the Legislative Councils will signalize his Lordship's administration of India.

BENGAL POLICE.

WE said in a recent issue that the Inspector General of Police has expressed his regret at the 'judicial results' obtained, and the unsatisfactory state of the provincial average. IT is impossible to obtain better results under the present system. The Police, as it is constituted at present, is wholly mistrusted by the people as well as by the generality of our Courts. Go where you will, you will find that all classes of the people are loud and unanimous in their condemnation of the Police. We think we do not at all overstate the case if we say that in the Mufassil the European and the native, the Zemindar and the ryot, the merchant and the tradesman, the rich and the poor, the citizen and the villager, all condemn the institution, and, say what its apologists may, it must be admitted that the Police of Bengal is very far from being what it should be under an enlightened Government. Corruption and malpractices are as prevalent now as they were years ago. There are some honest and good men it is true among the body, but their number is unfortunately very limited. If facts and figures are needed in support of our view the Police report itself will abundantly supply them; that report has not yet been able to do away with the different heads of crimes and dereliction of duty of which our guardians of peace and property are often found to be guilty.

Coming to the number of punishments awarded to the members of the force under the different heads during the past year, we observe it to be thus tabulated:—

	Judicial Punishment.		*Departmental.*	
	Under Penal Code.	Under Act V.	Fine, Degradation &c.	Dismissal.
Inspectors	„	„	8	1
Sub-Inspectors	8	1	462	10
Head Constables	28	9	1129	40
Constables	282	197	2905	540

One constable was transported for life, and 8 Sub-Inspectors, 2 Head constables, and 47 Constables were punished by Magistrates; there were besides 10 cases of extortion and a few of embezzlement. Cases of extortion have been made very light of by the Inspector-General; he says that they are petty and undeserving of special notice. We think, however, that the number is large enough to give some idea of the character of the existing Police. We do not find any expression of regret in any quarter in regard to this disgraceful feature of the Police administration; on the contrary, the report seeks to take credit for the comparatively small percentage of punishments under the different heads, and goes on to say:—"there is considerable decrease under the heads of both judicial and departmental punishment, but it is not easy to say how far this is due to a real improvement and how far to offences being overlooked." The reason to our mind of this decrease is not far to seek. The offences and acts of high-handedness and oppression committed by the Police seldom come to light. Our countrymen as a rule, quietly submit to the acts of wrong, oppression and injustice, and, for fear of after consequences, abstain from laying their complaints, however well-founded, against the Police before the constituted authorities. The least that we can say is that the figures under the several heads must be taken with some qualification. We must not omit, however, to mention that 1,440 officers and men received money rewards, and 71 men were promoted during the year. We cannot attach any great weight to this circumstance, when we find the Inspector-General was able to bestow special commendation only upon 7 Inspectors out of a body of 160, and 7 Sub-Inspectors out of 900, and 5 Head Constables out of a body of 2352, and 5 Constables out of a grand total of 19269 men. We are not informed for what particular good conduct or acts the officers and men have been specially mentioned in the report and otherwise rewarded.

There is one more passage in the report which deserves special notice, and which, we think, does very little credit to the persons concerned in this transaction. We observe that the passage we refer to has not escaped notice of His Honor the Lieutenant Governor. The passage in the report, to which we take exception, has reference to a certain case, the details of which, as we gather from the report, are as follows:—A charge of grossly ill-using two bad characters for the purpose of extorting information from them was brought against a Sub-Inspector on an inquiry initiated, be it said to his credit, by a District Superintendent of police. The offender was fined Rs. 120. The case came on appeal before the Sessions Judge, who, referring to an argument advanced before him by the pleader of the Sub-Inspector that rough treatment of bad characters does not justify a conviction and sentence under Section 323 of the Indian Penal Code, observed:—"There is something to be said to palliate the conduct of the appellant when there are repeated thefts in a locality. The public opinion of the place demands that the bad characters of the neighbourhood shall be intimidated. The police officer, who came to the place and was satisfied with putting questions to the men of bad repute, would be generally regarded as inefficient and careless in his duty. For an omelette eggs must be broken, and for the suppression of burglaries, the reputed thieves of the neighbourhood must take some rough handling as of course. There is some practical common sense in these views; and I am prepared to say that, having regard to the actual condition of this country, courts should not be disposed to look with too curious eyes on every small excess committed by an investigating officer of Police." Commenting upon this expression of opinion by the Sessions Judge, the Inspector-General remaks:—"It would seem that in this matter we are not only in advance of public opinion, but that even the Courts are not disposed to be more than lukewarm." We are glad to notice that the judgment of the Sessions Judge, who must have been in his time an energetic Joint, and the zeal of the Inspector-General have found very little favour with His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, who has administered a gentle and wholesome admonition to both the high functionaries in these terms:—"The Lieutenant-Governor recognises the fact that charges of violence are readily brought against police officers and that they are sometimes false, * * at the same time, he thinks it would be *most dangerous* (the italics are our own) to show undue leniency in any well established case of torture. The provisions of the Penal Code may, in point of severity, be in advance of public opinion, but morality has a tendency to follow, however slowly, in the wake of legislation, and if public opinion sympathizes with the beating of thieves and rough treatment of known bad characters, it should be the endeavour of Government officers *to educate and raise it to a higher level.*" The italics again are ours. We cannot sufficiently thank His Honor for these pertinent remarks. We can only express our surprise that an English Judge could be so oblivious of all ideas of propriety and decency as to hold out encouragement to the exercise of high-handedness on the part of the police, and regret at the display of a feeling of exultation by the head of the Police Department. We agree with his Honor that the report of the Inspector-General is very interesting and valuable and replete with interesting and useful facts and figures; but there its merits end. The whole report has been written in a tone of apology. The writer seems to be painfully aware of the rottenness of the system which he feels bound to defend. This system has worked for the past 26 years, but has entirely failed to give satisfaction, and the sooner it is replaced by another the better it would be for the interest of the people and the Government.

In 1838 a Police Commission was appointed to enquire into the system as it then existed. The Commission submitted a voluminous report, bearing date the 18th August, 1838, in which many recommendations were made, and to which was added an exhaustive minute by Sir (then Mr.) Frederick Halliday all of which are to be found printed with the Police report of 1848.

On the 2nd of September, 1856, certain Christain Missionary gentlemen residing in Calcutta and its neighbourhood presented a memorial to the then Lieutenant-Governor Sir Frederick Halliday in which they prayed for the appointment of a Commission of inquiry, and on the 20th of September, the same year, the British Indian Association also presented a petition supporting the Missionary Memorial, but traversed certain statements contained therein. These memorials were submitted to the Government of India and ultimately forwarded to the Court of Directors with the minutes of the Members of the Council of the Governor-General of India. The upshot was the enactment of the Police Act of 1851, under which the present system was constituted, which, though an improvement on the system it superseded, has failed to cure the evils then complained of. It is high time, therefore, that another Commission of inquiry be appointed and a better system devised.

THE FINANCIAL POSITION.

THE debate which took place at the last sitting of the Viceroy's Legislative Council on the financial position of the Government was one of the most interesting ever held in that Council. Our readers will remember that the Finance Member had at the previous meeting given the Council a full exposition of the financial position of the country in connection with his proposal for the levy of a small duty on petroleum, and that at the suggestion of Raja Peary Mohun Mukerji His Excellency the Viceroy put off the discussion of the measure to the last meeting. The Hon'ble Mr. Westland opened the proceedings by explaining that as the definition given of petroleum in the bill, and as the mode of levying the duty required further consideration, he would not ask the Council to consider its provisions at that stage, but simply move that the Bill be referred to a select Committee. Sir Dinshaw Petit supported the necessity of the measure and explained how it would not affect even the poorest classes. He also considered the statement made by the Finance Member of the fiancial position of the country to be very satisfactory. The Hon'ble Mr. Steel made an able and interesting speech in the course of which he vindicated the action of Government in the matter of the increased salt duty, and explained how a previous notice of the increase would have benefited a few dealers at the cost of the public; he dwelt on the general question of indirect taxation at some length, and showed how it was more suited to this country than direct taxation such as the income-tax which though right in principle caused a good deal of oppression. Mr. Steel also trusted that when the proper time comes the Court-fees would be reduced, the rice-tax remitted, and the obnoxious income-tax abolished. The Hon'ble Mr. Evans laid much stress on the necessity of reducing expenditute for the purpose of restoring financial equilibrium. The Home charges were very heavy, and an immense strain was thrown on India by the short-service system and the constant moving of troops, which was not justified by any apparent increase in efficiency, but rather the reverse. The transport service was very expensive, and should be reduced. The hon'ble member concluded by saying that the Government, having helped themselves all they could, must now look to the higher powers to help them, and he thought the proposals before the Council were best calculated for raising the money required. The Hon'ble Syed Ameer Hossein, too, thought that the proposed duty was unobjectionable, and, having heard the financial statement read out last week to the Council, he thought a good case had been made out for increased taxation. He felt bound to say nothing was so unsuited to the country as direct taxation. He was of opinion that, should necessity arise, recourse should be had to that form of indirect taxation which was abolished by the Council a few years ago, and which, so far as India was concerned, was the least objectionable. Rana Shunkar Bux Singh Bahadur also supported the proposed measure. Raja Peary Mohun Mukerji thanked the Government for having gratified a widely expressed public desire by placing the financial Statement for the ensuing year before the Council, and discussed some of the features of that Statement. He rightly observed that it would have been unwise to meet the deficit by a loan which would have the effect of adding to the burden

of the country and making the position of future years worse. He conceded that it would be a matter of questionable expediency if metals and hardware were taxed instead of petroleum, more particularly as a duty on the last commodity would on an average tax every family in the empire to the extent of barely half an anna a year. Colonel Chesney made some very sensible remarks on the increased salt duty and eulogised the Hon'ble Mr. Steel for having so very clearly placed the matter before the Council, but took him to task for having attacked the policy of Lord Ripon in reducing the duty in 1882. The Finance Member replied shortly to the remarks that had been made by the different speakers. We are sorry to find that he saw no way for advising the reduction of the Court-fees. His Excellency the Viceroy said that the real difficulty attending the financial policy of the Government of India is the instability of silver. With an uncertainty of that kind introduced into all his calculations, no Finance Minister can ever enjoy any real repose. He must be always conscious that in the unknown future, there may exist contingencies which will upset all his calculations, and destroy the anticipated equilibrium in his Budget; but from the very nature of the case, all that the Government can do is to exercise its best intelligence in calculating the probabilities of the actual situation, and leave the ultimate issue in the hands of Providence. "As I have already had occasion to say, had it not been for the fall in silver which had made me three millions a year a poorer Viceroy than I was when I first came to the country, notwithstanding even the fall in Opium and the expenditure in Burmah, I think we might have tided over our present difficulties without any resort to increased taxation. From what I have recently heard from our Minister in China, it does not seem likely that any very considerable change in the mercantile relations between China and India as regards opium is likely to ensue. Again, though we have no right to allow such an anticipation to influence our practical policy, we may fairly hope that our Railway receipts will also recover. With regard to Burmah, there is no doubt that, although during the last year the expenditure has been very heavy, heavier even than was anticipated, it will be a diminishing charge, and even in the Budget we are now preparing, a change for the better will be shown. Moreover, it must be remembered that Lower Burmah may be expected, if not altogether, at all events to a considerable extent, to be able to carry Upper Burmah on its back. It is true the surplus revenue of Lower Burmah which annually accrues over and above the expenses of its own administration, and now amounts to nearly a million only represents the fair share which that province might be called upon to pay towards the general Imperial expenses of administration; but, on the other hand, it is clear that if Lower Burmah did not exist, the large sums which for some years past we have received from thence would have had to be supplied by India herself from extra taxation from which she has now been relieved. Consequently, were the accounts of the two provinces to be united, the deficit in regard to Upper Burmah, even for the present, will be found to be inconsiderable. It will be interesting to the Council to know that not only are we daily receiving satisfactory proofs of the rapidity with which Upper Burmah is settling down, and order is being established, but that we have made most satisfactory progress in dealing with all those subordinate questions which affect the Shan States and our relations both with Siam and China." Referring to the report that the Government was determined upon the subjugation of the Shan States, and that it was about to send a *corps d'armée* in order to carry this purpose into effect, His Excellency pointed out the misconception which prevails in regard to the political and geographical condition of what are known as the Shan States and explained the nature of the relations which the Government has with those States. "These States," he said, "have always been subject to Upper Burmah, and when we took possession of that country, we sent message to their various Chiefs that from henceforth they were to regard Her Majesty the Queen as their Sovereign. This information was received upon their part in a satisfactory manner, and they suggested that we should send up some officers to settle the exact nature of their future relations with us. We have taken advantage of the cold weather to despatch two political officers into the Shan States accompanied each by a small column. These gentlemen have traversed the whole district from one end to the other in perfect security, and have been everywhere received in a cordial manner both by the population and by the various Chiefs. Not only so, but our agents have met on the extreme eastern frontier of Shan Burmah the authorities of Siam, and have come to a preliminary understanding with them as to the frontier which is hereafter to divide the Shan States under British rule from those under Siamese jurisdiction. But what perhaps is even a more gratifying feature in the situation is the fact that the Government of His Majesty the Emperor of China is exhibiting towards us a most friendly spirit, and is doing everything we could desire to render the settlement of that part of Burmah which borders on China easy and successful. The Viceroy of Yunnan has received instructions to order the officials on the Chinese frontiers to cultivate friendly relations with us, and the effect of this action upon the part of China is now becoming very marked. I may mention, as an additional proof of the desire of China to exhibit a conciliatory spirit towards the Government of India, that she is using her best efforts to induce the garrison of Thibetans who have passed beyond their own frontier, and have built a fort on a road which was made by the Indian Government in Sikkim, and over which we have definite and strict legal rights, to retire within their own territories. Consequently, although, as must always be the case in a new province recently added to the Empire, a very considerable outlay will be necessary in Burmah, with the view to furnishing it with roads, jails, barracks, and public buildings, and for the purpose of opening up what are undoubtedly its large material resources, I do not think that any one need apprehend that our expenditure in Burmah will eventually prove a source of financial embarrassment to the Indian Government.'

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES

THE Prime Minister of Nepal had an interview with His Excellency the Viceroy on Wednesday last. It is not known exactly what has brought the Minister here, but it is thought that the recent complications in Nepal and Sikkim are not wholly unconnected with his visit to Calcutta.

IT is said that Major E. Durand will succeed Mr. Girdlestone as Resident in Nepal.

THE annual meeting of the Asiatic Society was held on Wednesday last when an excellent address was delivered by Mr. E. T. Atkinson on the year's work.

Now that the whole of the debt on the Hooghly Bridge has been paid off, the authorities are considering the propriety of abolishing, or at any rate reducing, the bridge tolls. The toll on the passengers would have ceased last year had not the Chamber of Commerce intervened and "thought it inequitable to levy tolls on goods-traffic alone." And they have now found a powerful auxiliary in the Chairman of the Calcutta Corporation. Sir Henry Harrison wants the tolls to be maintained for another year, and made over to him for constructing the Central Road. A Committee has been appointed to "consider and report on" the revised scale of tolls. The Committee consists of the Hon'ble H. J. Reynolds, President of the Port Commissioners; Mr. Campbell, Agent of the East Indian Railway; the Hon'ble R. Steel, President of the Chamber of Commerce; Mr. Hallet, Master of the Trades' Association; Sir Henry Harrison, Chairman of the Calcutta Corporation; Mr. Westmacott, Chairman of the Howrah Municipality; Mr. Kelner, Deputy Comptroller General; and the Hon'ble C. P. L. Macaulay, Financial Secretary to the Government of Bengal. We miss the names of some representatives of "native" commercial interests of the town.

THE annual Conversazione of the Mahomedan Literary Society was held at the Town Hall on Friday before last with the usual *eclat*. His Excellency the Viceroy and Lady Dufferin, and His Honor the Lieutenant Governor graced the occasion with their presence, and there was a large gathering of the Calcutta nobility and gentry. A goodly display of art-wares and Science curiosities was made, and Messrs Day and Sil's recent application of Electric Lighting to carriage lamps was much admired by the Viceroy.

SIR Steuart Bayley presided at the fifty sixth annual prize distribution of the Oriental Seminary, on Tuesday last. There were some excellent recitations by the junior pupils of the school and Sir Steuart in addressing them gave them some wholesome words of advice. Touching the obedience of pupils to their teachers His Honor said that there was a prevalent belief that the rising generation did not bestow that respect to their elders as in former years. Whether it was a passing phenomenon or had another origin, he would not enquire. His Honor would only say that it was detrimental to the advancement of boys who had no self-control, had no restraint on their habits of discipline, and this would certainly terminate as a fatal solvent to the stability of society. It was no wonder that a recent resolution of the Government of India dealt with the subject of discipline. His Honor would impress upon the well-wishers and promoters of institutions, the fact that the good that could be attained in this direction was by wholesome advice to the pupils by the medium of the teachers. His Honor was much gratified to find that drawing, which was a primary necessity for technical education, was so well taught in the institution. He would congratulate the donors and promoters on the high state of efficiency the institution had attained in this direction. Maharaja Narendra Krishna Bahadur thanked His Honor for the honor done to the institution by his presence, and alluded to the prosperous state of the institution, which he said had by independent effort produced distinguished men, one of whom was elevated to the Bench of the High Court.

IN the address of welcome delivered by Nawab Abdul Lutif Khan Bahadur in receiving the Khabir Maliks the other day the Nawab Bahadur observed:—

For the means and appliances of comfortable travelling, all felt an additional cause of gratitude to the British Government for linking together the different Provinces of India, indeed, for uniting India with neighbouring countries Formerly, not only was there an absence of such means of communication, but people could scarcely believe in the possibility of such wonders as the Maliks themselves had now seen. The extraordinary speed, ease and convenience, with which they had travelled all the way from the farthest end of India down to Calcutta, must have struck them. But with all their great and varied knowledge of arts and sciences, the British would not have been able to construct these iron roads, if the state of the country had not proved favorable to such peaceful civilizing undertakings. History tells us that India in days gone by did not enjoy uninterrupted peace, and that the lives and properties of her subjects were in constant jeopardy, because her rulers were always at feud with each other, endangering the peace of the country. To construct railway communications and to engage in other peaceful pursuits, would have been simply impossible. Thus it was, as he need hardly add, on account of the justice and the impartiality of English officials, that the land was enjoying its present state of prosperity and contentment. Our just and benign Government, moreover, have provided every means for the facility, comfort, and benefit of their subjects of every religion, and all classes of their subjects, by reason of their rights being protected and comforts brought within their easy reach, were pleased and contented. If there had been no fellow-feeling among the different nationalities of India, the present peace would not have been maintained, nor could we be living amidst people of different religious persuations and nationalities in peace and unity.

The Nawab Bahadur gave expression to feelings which are alike shared by Hindoos and Mahomedans, and the Maliks must have been deeply impressed with the loyalty of the people on this side of India to the throne of her gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress.

THE Afghan question though one of the principal political topics of the day is hardly understood in all its bearings by the generality of people. The reason seems to be that though there are many good English works on the subject we had not a good connected history of the question in the Vernacular. This want has now been removed by Babu Keshub Chundra Acharya, the well-known and public-spirited Zamindar of Muktagacha, who has written an admirable little volume on the subject giving a concise and connected account of Afghan affairs commencing with the early events of the last century. The political aspects of the present situation are ably discussed. The style of the work is well suited to those for whom it is intended, and we have no doubt that it will be an acquisition to our vernacular newspaper readers. Those that understand English may also read the book with great advantage.

POLITICAL affairs in Europe are taking a new turn. The secret treaty concluded on the 7th of October, 1879, between Australia and Germany, has just been published officially in Berlin and Vienna simultaneously. This has been done avowedly with the intention of dispelling any doubts as to the purely defensive policy of the two Empires. The treaty provides for the mutual co-operation of the two Powers in the event of Russia attacking either of them, or in either supporting an attack made by the other Power. The publication of this important document is, however, regarded as a distinct warning to Russia. Italy joined this treaty last autumn. The *Times* believes that Russia's pride will resent the revelation that has been made of this treaty, and fears that Russia has pushed her policy of provocation too far to be able to retract.

WE learn from the Government Resolution on the Administration Report of the Port Commissioners for 1886-87 that the total debt of the Port Trust on the 31st of March last amounted to a crore and seventy-nine lakhs. Against this debt the Commissioners estimate the assets of the trust at the close of the year at about 2½ crores. The income during the year under Revenue Account amounted to 23 lakhs, and the total expenditure to nearly 28 lakhs. Money having been advanced by Government work on the Kidderpore Docks steadily proceeded. The Port Commissioners' Railway, we see, continues to show satisfactory results. During the year under review the receipts amounted to a lakh and three-quarter; while the expenditure came up to a lakh and-a-quarter. The net revenue was thus half-a-lakh of rupees. But as the capital outlay on the Railway is not given in the Government Resolution, we cannot say whether the work has proved really reproductive. The number of vessels surveyed during the year was 265, and the number of visits paid to them was 698.

MR. FINUCANE, the Director of Agriculture, Bengal, has submitted to Government a report on the estimated out-turn of the *Chadoi* crops reaped last autumn and of the winter crop, the harvesting of which has just been completed. The last rainy season being one of deficient rainfall throughout Bengal, the outturn of *Chadoi* was, as a matter of course, seriously short of the normal. But the Director does not tell us whether the outturn has been eight annas or four annas of an average crop. If he cannot put forward an approximate estimate of the actual outturn, we do not see the good of his submitting a report on the subject. As regards the winter rice crop, we are told that it is reported to be less than the normal in 32 out of the 44 districts of the Lower Provinces. On the whole, the Director estimates that the outturn will be somewhat less than the normal, but the deficiency will probably not be more than two annas. Considering that the last rainy season was one of deficient rain-fall throughout Bengal, the Director's estimate seems to us to be rather high. He, however, takes care to explain that the figured estimates of area under cultivation and of outturn of crops appended to his report have no claim to statistical accuracy, and that they represent merely the opinions of local officers. These estimates, to use Mr. Finucane's own words, "must be accepted with caution, as being in reality little better than guesses." If so they are more than useless. Statistics, the perfect accuracy of which cannot be guaranteed, are positively mischievous. We are entirely at a loss to understand why Government should incur the expense of compiling and printing of such statistics.

LAST year the Indian Telegraph Department expended 21 lakhs of rupees on the construction of lines and buildings, the purchase of plant and tools &c., and the ordinary expenditure amounted to 41 lakhs. Against this total outlay of 62 lakhs has to be set a gross revenue of about 59½ lakhs, leaving a balance of about 2½ lakhs on the wrong side of the account. These results the Government of India considers satisfactory. Compared with previous years, they undoubtedly show an improvement. But we must remember that large proportion of the gross revenue of the Department is derived from State messages, the value of which last year amounted to nearly 17 lakhs, representing more than one-third of the whole message revenue. Leaving the State messages out, we find that the Department had a small surplus of one and-a half lakh, which gives a percentage of only 38 on the capital expended up to the close of the year.

THE case of Babu Benode Behari Bose, lately employed as a third grade clerk in the office of the Examiner of Commissariat Accounts, Bengal, seems to be a very hard one. The Babu who is a graduate of the Calcutta University, joined the above office on a salary of Rs. 70 per mensem, six and-a-half years ago. In recognition of his usefulness he was soon promoted to the next higher grade, and he continued to give satisfaction to his superiors till the beginning of 1886. He had the misfortune to incur the displeasure of Major J. A. Miley, the new Examiner, who deprived him of his third annual increment on the ground that he had neglected "for nearly a month to carry out the Examiner's orders in reference to an incomplete voucher." As a matter of fact, no such orders had been issued. Not satisfied with depriving the Babu of his annual increment, Major Miley degraded him on the minimum pay and at the bottom of his grade, and then summarily removed him from office, although he had applied for six months' leave on the strength of a medical certificate granted by Dr. Sanders. Babu Benode Behari was neither furnished with the reasons for his dismissal, nor allowed an opportunity of defence, in contravention of the orders of Government, which distinctly lay down that in all cases of dismissal of a public servant the charge against him should be reduced to writing and his defence should be taken. The Babu, we understand, has laid his case before the Viceroy.

THE long talked of Chapter of the Order of the Indian Empire was held in quite a brilliant style on Saturday last at the Government House at 12 o'clock noon. The idea originally was to hold the Investiture in the Throne Room of the Government House, the bulk of the audience being accommodated in the Marble Hall, from where but little of the ceremony could be expected to be seen. But better counsels prevailed and at the eleventh hour the spacious Durbar Tent was brought into requisition and pitched on the southern grounds of the House. Considering the short time at the disposal of the authorities, the arrangements made by Lord William Beresford were admirable, and the ceremony passed off without a hitch. The *elite* of the Calcutta community, European and native, were present to witness the imposing ceremonial and the most elaborate rules with regard to 'reverence' were duly observed. In absence of Knights Grand Commanders and Knights-Commanders, the Companions of the Order met His Excellency the Grand Master in the Assembling Tent and full military honors were paid as the Durbar tent was reached by the procession. Baron Connemara was invested with the insignia of Knight Grand Commander and the Hon'ble Rana Shankar Bax Bahadur, the Maharaja of Vizianagram, Surgeon-General Simpson, Mr. Cappel, the Nawab Bahadur of Murshidabad, Messrs. Mackenzie Wallace and A. W. Croft, the Maharaja of Durbhanga, and Bapu Sahib Avar of Gowalior were made Knights Commanders. Syed Amir Ali, Captain Muir, Mr. Walton, Kazi Syed Ahmed, and the Hon'ble Syed Amir Hossein were also decorated as Companions of the Order. Although the official programme only directed that all present should stand up when the Grand Master's procession reached the Tent, the whole of the assembly rose as some of the recipients of honor were conducted to the Dais and received their insignia. Baron Connemara, Sir Benjamin Simpson, Sir Albert Cappel, Sir Donald Wallace, and Sir Alfred Croft were, before being invested with the insignia of the Order, made Knights Bachelors of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland by the Grand Master who touched them with a naked sword on both shoulders. Salutes were fired at the commencement and conclusion of the ceremony and on the investiture of Lord Connemara. It is estimated that over 5000 people—the cream of the Calcutta Society—were present at the ceremony.

THE liberty to decree-holders to bid for and purchase properties sold in execution of their decrees under Section 294 of the Civil Procedure Code, is apt to be, and as a matter of fact sometimes is, abused in the Mafassil. The High Court has, therefore, done well to suggest that in such sales the Court ordering them should take into consideration whether it should not fix a reserve price equal to the estimated value of the property, below which it should not be sold.

MR. RAMPINI has been temporarily appointed to try compensation suits of the 24-Pergunnahs arising out of the Kidderpore Dock land acquisition.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS UNEQUALLED EFFICACY IN CASES OF CHRONIC COUGH.—This celebrated Oil has been most extensively and successfully used in the treatment of Chronic Coughs. It effectully corrects the morbid action and deposits of mucous surfaces of the throat and bronchial tube, and speedily allays the irritation which produces frequent and prolonged coughing. Dr. Hunter Semple, Physician to the Hospital for Diseases of the Throat and Chest, writes:—"I have long been aware of the great reputation enjoyed by the Light Brown Cod Liver Oil introduced into medical practice by Dr. de Jongh, and have recommended it with the utmost confidence. I have no hesitation in stating my opinion, that it possesses all the qualities of a good and efficient medicine. Its taste is by no means disagreable, and might even be called pleasant. I can fully believe that, from its richness in chemical principles, it is superior in efficacy to many, or perhaps all, of the pale-coloured Oils. I have found Dr. de Jongh's Oil very useful in cases of Chronic Cough, and especially in Laryngeal Disease complicated with Consumption." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pint, pints, and quarts with his stamp and signature and the signature of his sole consignees on the capsule and label under wrapper, by all chemists, druggists and store-keepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford and Co. 210, High Holborn London.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

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H. H. Maharaja, of Joypore	13	4	0
British Indian Association, Oudh	13	4	0
Vencata Varadiengar Esqre., Bangalore	13	4	0
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Poona Native General Library	13	4	0
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H. H. Maharaja, of Iodore	13	4	0
Baboo Lolit Mohan Sing Roy, Chuckdighee	13	4	0
,, Gopal Chunder Sen, Burdwan	10	0	0
,, Kashinath Biswas, Agra	13	4	0
,, Kedar Nath Biswas, Jhenida	10	0	0
,, Krishna Chunder Das, Dhubr e	6	10	0
,, Hurry Churn Mookerjea, Palamow	13	4	0
,, Kylash Chunder Ghose, Bhaugulpore	13	4	0
,, Trigunanund Upadhya, Sarun	13	4	0
,, Kallyprosunno Roy, Lahore	13	4	0
,, Sitanath Bannerjee, Cooch Behar	5	0	0
,, Lucksmi persad Doomraon	7	12	0
,, Hem Chunder Bannerjee, Benares	18	0	0
,, Dinendronath Roy, Shajadpore	10	0	0

Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette,—*1st February, 1887.*

GENERAL,—Mr. C W E Pittar, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Cuttack, is transfered to the sudder station of the district of Mymensingh.

Mr. F M Blaine, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Backergunge, is transferred to the sudder station of the district of Cuttack.

Babu Nobin Kishna Bonnerji, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Tipperah, is allowed leave for three months, under section 128, chapter X of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 22nd December 1887.

Mr. F F Handly, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is posted to the sudder station of the District of Pabna until the date on which he recieves charge of the office of District and Session, Judge of that District.

Mr. E N Baker is appointed to be an Assistant Commissioner of the first grade with effect from the 1st instant, but will continue to act, until further orders, as Deputy Commissioner of Manbhum.

Mr. L P Shirree, Officiating Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal, in the Financial and Municipal Departments, is confirmed in that appointment with effect from the 1st instant, vice Mr. E N Baker.

The services of the Rev. T M M Griffiths, Honorary Chaplain, Orissa Volunteer Rifle Corps, are placed at the disposal of the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

Mr. T J C Grant, Magistrate and Collector, Balasore, on furlough, is appointed to be Magistrate and Collector of Puri

Mr. R Cornish, Magistrate and Collector, on furlough, is posted to Balasore.

Mr. A C Tute, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Balasore is appointed to act, until further orders, as Magistrate and Collector of Bogra.

In modification of the order of the 21st ultimo Moulvi Sobnon Ali Khan is appointed temporarily to be a Sub-Deputy Collector of the fourth grade, vice Babu Dwarka Nath Bose, and is posted to Sitmuhi, in Mozufferpore.

Babu Juggut Chunder Roy, Sub-Deputy Collector, Basirhat 24-Pergunnahs, is transferred temporarily to the sudder station of that District.

Babu Atul Behary Maitra, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector was employed to the sudder station of the Cuttack District from the afternoon of the 27th ultimo to the after noon of the 2nd instant.

Babu Okhoy Kumar Bose, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector of Mymensingh, is transferred to Dinagepore, and is posted to the sudder station of that District.

Major H Boileau, Officiating Deputy Commissioner, Julpigori, is confirmed in that appointment.

Colonel W L Samuells, Deputy Commissioner, Manbhum, on furlough, is appointed to be Deputy Commissioner of Singbhum.

Mr. W B Oldham, Deputy Commissioner Darjilling, is appointed to be Deputy Commissioner of Manbhum, but will continue to act, until further orders, or Magistrate and Collector of Burdwan.

Mr. A W Paul, Officiating Deputy Commissioner Darjiling, is confirmed in that appointment.

Mr. L R Forces, Officiating Deputy Commissioner, Chittagong Hill tracts, is confirmed in that appointment.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.—Babu Madhub Chunder Chuckerbutty, Subordinate Judge of Burdwan, is allowed leave for three weeks, viz., five days under section 73-3 of the Civil Leave Code and sixteen days under rule 1 of the same section of the Code, with effect from the date on which he availed himself of it,

Babu Gopi Mohun Mukerji, First Munsiff of Burdwan, is appointed to act as Subordinate Judge of the District, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Mudhub Chander Chuckerbutty or until further orders.

Babu Parbutty Kumar Mitter, First Subordinate Judge of Jessore, is allowed leave for one month, viz., nineteen days under section 73 3 of the Civil Leave Code, and eleven days under rule 1 of the same section of the Code, with effect from the 2nd proximo, or such subsequent date as he may be relieved.

Babu Joy Gopal Sing, First Munsiff of Jahanabad, Hughly, on leave, is appointed to act as a Subordinate Judge of Jessore, during absence, on leave, of Babu Parbutty Kumar Mitter, or until further orders.

The Lieutenant-Governor accepts the resignation tendered by Babus Haran Chunder Ganguly and Kailash Chunder Bose of their appointment as Honorary Magistrates of the Howrah Bench.

Babu Kally Dass Bannerji is appointed to be an Honorary Magistrate for the Independent Bench at Kandi, in the District of Murshidabad and is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class.

Mr. T Inglis, Officiating Joint Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Dumka, Santhal Pergunnahs, is vested with the powers of a Subordinate Judge.

Mr J R Hand, Sub-Divisional Officer of Bhabuah, in the District of Shahabad, is vested with powers of a Munsiff within the local limits of the Sub-Division of Bhabuah.

Babu Purno Chunder Mitter, Munsiff of Sewan, in the District of Sarun, is vested with the powers of a Jugde of a Court of Small Causes for trial of suits cognizable by such a court up to the value of Rs. 50 within the local limits of the Jurisdiction of the Sewan Munsiff.

Babu Jogendro Nath Ghose, B L Second Munsiff of Bhanga, in the District of Furridpore, is temporarily vested with the powers of a Judge of a court of Small Causes for the trial of suits cognizable by such a court up to the value Rs 50 within the local limits of the Bhanga Munsiff during the absence, on leave, of Babu Behary Lall Mukerji, First Munsiff of that Chowkey, or until further orders.

Mr. J H Bernard, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, 24-Pergunnahs, is vested with powers under sections 110, 133 and 524 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Mr G E Manisty, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Monghyr, is vested with powers under section 110 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Advertisements.

THE COUNTESS OF DUFFERIN'S FUND.

THE Third Annual Meeting of the National Association for supplying Female Medical Aid to the Women of India will be held, by permission of the Municipality, in the Town Hall, Calcutta, at 4-30 o'clock on Wednesday afternoon, the 8th February.

H. COOPER, A. D. C.
Honorary Secretary.

CALCUTTA, 22*nd January*, 1888.

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NOTICE.

In accordance with the Resolution of the Government of Bengal in the General Department, dated the 6th March 1886, published on page 541 of the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 31st of the same month, notice is hereby given that an examination for the admission of female students to the certificate class of the Calcutta Medical College will be held in the Theatre of that College on Tuesday, the 14th February 1888, and following days.

Hours and Subjects of Examination.

Tuesday.—English dictation, Grammar, and Composition—from 1 to 4 P.M.

Wednesday.—History of England and India. Geography: General, and of India in particular—from 1 to 4 P.M.

Thursday.—Arithmetic: the first four rules, vulgar and decimal fractions, and proportion—from 1 to 4 P.M.

Candidates must apply in writing to the Principal of the Medical College, Calcutta, not later than the 11th February, for permission to appear at the examination.

Applications for permission to reside in the Sarnamayi hostel should be addressed to the Honorary Secretary to the Bengal Branch of the Countess of Dufferin's Fund, Fort William, Calcutta.

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